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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous Reading for the family, and Valuable Statistical Intelligence, and Valuable Tables.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—Newspaper Decisions.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether direct to his name or another's, or whether he has ever ordered or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

THE FINANCE BILL.

VIEWS OF SECRETARY BRISTOW.

THE PATENT OFFICE NOMINATIONS.

Cause of the Delay in Their Confirmation.

Mr. Jewell Begins the Removal of Some of Cresswell's Appointees.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 24, 1874.

The Patent Office Nominations.

There has been considerable comment respecting the delay of the Senate Committee on Patents to report back the nominations of J. M. Thacher, for Commissioner of Patents, Ellis Spear, Assistant, and Mr. Hopkins, Principal Examiner. Members of the committee state that the delay is occasioned by no hostility those gentlemen. The Chairman of the committee, Mr. Ferry, is in poor health, and though he was in attendance upon the sessions of the Senate up to a week ago, it was decided to hold no committee meetings until after the Christmas recess, when the nominations will be taken up and, it is believed, be reported favorably at a very early day.

Bristow on the Finance Bill.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in speaking about the new Senate Finance bill, expressed the opinion that it was better than nothing, though it did not meet the expectations nor wishes of the department. He thought that any definite action in the direction of a resumption of specie payments was something gained. He expressed the opinion that, in a great measure, the slow recovery of the business of the country from the effects of the panic was due to the uncertainty which has characterized the action of Congress on the financial question; that if it is once made a definite thing he thinks the effects will be practical, immediate and beneficial.

Dismissals from Postoffice Department.

The weeding out of a large share of Mr. Cresswell's Maryland appointments in the Postoffice Department has commenced. A few days ago notifications were sent to two special agents that their resignations would be accepted, and they were forthwith sent in. One of these was that of Major Griswold, rebel Provost Marshal at Richmond. In the Greeley campaign he was the Democratic candidate for Congress from one of the Baltimore districts, but was defeated by Governor Swann, the Greeley candidate. His appointment by Mr. Cresswell was greatly censured, but he was tolerated until Governor Jewell lifted his scalp. Other Marylanders will have to walk within a few days.

FIRE IN PETROLIA.

Five Buildings Burned—Loss Thirteen Thousand Dollars.

PETROLIA, Pa., December 24.—A fire broke out this morning in Reno's real estate building, on Argyle street, which destroyed five buildings. The losses are as follows: Reno's real estate building and contents, $5,000, no insurance; Major A. C. Hawkins, trunk room, furniture, clothes and diamond pin, $600, no insurance; Mrs. E. L. Wilwell, trunks, furniture, clothing, &c., $650, no insurance; R. R. Wise, trunk, clothes and room furniture, $500, no insurance; W. R. Golden, trunk and clothes, $250; James White, billiard room, damage to tables and furniture in moving, $2,500, insurance not known; Frank Massan, trunk and room fixtures over White's billiard hall, $150; Deed & Black, grocery and provision store, $1,950, insurance $1,100; G. W. Gibbang, boot and shoe store and household furniture, $2,000, no insurance; John Stillwell, loss in damage to furniture in moving, $150. Other smaller losses than those stated were sustained by different parties in moving goods from their dwellings.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 24, 1874.

JOSEPHINE MANSFIELD'S SUIT.

The suit of Josephine Mansfield against the estate of the late James Fisk, Jr., to recover the value of the two promissory notes, with interest, amounting altogether to $25,000, resulted in favor of the plaintiff.

TWO NEW RING SUITS.

Two new suits, growing out of the old "ring" operations, have been begun, to recover $825,000 for the city.

STOVE WORKS BURNED.

John H. Keyser's stove works were burned this morning. The loss is estimated at $100,000.

SALE OF GOVERNMENT GOLD.

The Government awarded $500,000 to-day at 111.63 to 111.65.

PLEASURES OF KALAKAUA.

King Kalakaua and party had a sleigh ride in Central Park to-day, and afterward visited the Normal College. His Majesty this afternoon visited the Stock Exchange, accompanied by his suite and members of the Common Council, where he was introduced to the most prominent brokers.

THIRTEEN GRASSHOPPER SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Whitelaw Reid forwarded this evening, by telegraph, to ex-Governor Saunders, Omaha, Nebraska, and Governor Osborne, Topeka, Kansas, $4,500, being the amount of the *Tribune* dollar subscription for the relief of the Kansas and Nebraska sufferers. The *Tribune* is continuing to receive subscriptions at the rate of several hundred dollars a day.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 25, 1 A. M., 1874.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England and the Middle States, generally clear and colder weather will prevail, with brisk north or west winds and rising barometer. For the South Atlantic States, generally clear and cooler weather, with north or east winds and continued high barometer. For the Gulf States, Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, clear or fair weather, except near the immediate coast, with easterly or southerly winds, slight changes in temperature and slowly falling barometer. For the Lower Lake region, partly cloudy weather, with brisk westerly winds backing to southerly, rising, followed by falling barometer, and temperature below freezing. For the Upper Lake region and the Northwest, increasing cloudiness and slowly rising temperature, with easterly or southerly winds and falling barometer east of the Mississippi.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Hog Buyer Assassinated in Indiana.

EVANSVILLE, IND., December 24.—An attempt was made last night to rob James A. Robinson, a well known hog buyer, near Fort Branch. He was shot twice, one ball lodging in a package of money in his breast coat pocket, another passing through the skirt of his overcoat. The police are on the track of the robbers.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The French Assembly has adjourned till January 5th.

Two American war vessels have arrived at Hong Kong with additional survivors of the burned steamship Japan.

James Walker, LL.D., formerly President of Harvard College, died Wednesday, at his residence in Cambridge, aged eighty.

Joseph Morris, an old citizen of Marion county, Indiana, was killed Wednesday night while attempting to cross the railroad track in front of a train.

The latest from the Louisiana Returning Board is to the effect that the Republicans have the Legislature by two majority on joint ballot, and that Monroe is defeated for State Treasurer by nearly two thousand.

About two hundred mechanics and laborers on the foundation of the new custom house and postoffice building at Nashville were discharged yesterday and the work stopped, the appropriation having been exhausted.

The Brazil, Indiana, *Echo* says: "A terrible and fatal accident occurred Saturday morning in the Bartlett mine, of William W. Risher. Con Sullivan was engaged in driving through a rib into another room, when a heavy piece of slate fell upon his head, and, it's supposed, killed him instantly. Being alone in his room, the corpse was not discovered until about two o'clock in the afternoon. He had only come here a few days ago, from the Shenango Valley, Pennsylvania, and leaves there a wife and six young children to mourn their sad loss."

DOOLEY'S YEAST POWDER is always strictly pure, and also put up full weight. It costs no more than impure baking powders, of light or short weight.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

Spain.

MEETING OF AMERICAN CENTENNIAL COMMISSIONERS.

MADRID, December 24.—The Spanish Commissioners to the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition met to-day. Senor Castelar made an eloquent address. He sketched the rise and progress of the United States, and the ideas of liberty and labor which prevailed there. He found in American civilization, language and art, traces of Spanish origin which time and ingratitude were unable to eradicate.

England.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT—THIRTY KILLED AND FIFTY WOUNDED.

LONDON, December 24.—A shocking railway accident occurred to-day, near the the town of Woodstock, Oxfordshire. An express train on a branch of the Great Western Railway was thrown from the track and precipitated down an embankment. Several of the carriages fell into the canal skirting the road. Thirty persons were killed and fifty wounded. Some of the latter are fatally injured. All have been conveyed to Oxford.

MINE EXPLOSION—TWENTY KILLED.

LONDON, December 24.—An explosion occurred in Bignall Hill colliery, North Staffordshire, to-day. Twenty miners were killed. Thirteen bodies have been taken out.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 24.—Steamship Peruvian, from Baltimore, arrived ont.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 24, 5 P. M.— Consols for money 94⅝@94¾; for account 94⅝@94¾. United States bonds—5's, 1865, 107½; do, 1867, 106; 10-40's, 104; new 5's, 103. New York Central 93; Erie 20@20¾; do preferred 42. Tallow 42s 6d. Refined petroleum 9½d. Hops 10@11l for American.

PARIS, December 24.—Rentes 61 francs 62½ centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 24.—Cotton quiet. Sales 10,000 bales; American 6,000; speculation and export 500. Breadstuffs quiet and unchanged. Pork 85s. Lard 62s 6d. Cheese 65s 0d.

FROM BADEN, PA.

A Sensation—A Lost Boy Restored to His Parents—Christmas Festivities.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

BADEN, December 24, 1874.

Mr. Smith gave a lecture on the climate and nature of the country of the Bermuda Islands, at the Methodist Episcopal church, last night, the new hall not being finished. A slight sensation was caused by the appearance of this gentleman in our midst, for the reason that he was the first colored gentleman who has appeared before a Baden audience. Quite a large and intelligent audience was present. His lecture was very interesting and novel, and was well appreciated.

For several weeks past a boy about twelve years old has been in this neighborhood, staying with a farmer. He would not tell where he was from, and never wanted to go to Pittsburgh. It was rumored that his parents lived in the city. He was taken there, and it proved to be his home. His parents cried with joy when they saw him. It seems that on the night of the great flood (July 26th), he was a few blocks away from home, and could not return on account of the heavy streams, and wandered away, not caring to return. His parents thought he had been drowned on that dreadful night which brought sorrow to so many firesides. If Charley Ross comes around this way we will send him right along.

Over the happy thoughts of demolishing a good sized turkey to-morrow we must not forget to say a few words about the entertainments in this vicinity. A concert is to be given this evening at Remington, by Professor Johanison, assisted by some of the best singers in Beaver county. It promises to be good. An exhibition is on the bills for Freedom, on Christmas night, by the young ladies and gentlemen of the Methodist Episcopal church of that place. We expect nothing else but a first class entertainment.

The COMMERCIAL is looked for anxiously every morning by the rivermen, as it is the only paper that can be relied upon for correct river news. May all your readers have a merry Christmas and happy New Year. ROSEBUD.

STATE NEWS.

The Glen Ironworks, Allentown, are in the care of the sheriff.

Williamsport young men are said to be taking lessons in drawing—with a corkscrew.

The Odd Fellows of Somerset county are to have a grand reunion at Somerset, Monday evening next.

Owing to defects in the charter, the Schuylkill county Miners' Hospital will not be built at present.

Alexander Wentz, deputy collector of the Philadelphia Custom House, died on Monday after a brief illness.

The lumbermen of Clearfield county are making the most of four inches of snow, and will get much timber hauled.

Ann Garrett, an aged maiden lady, was thrown from her carriage, near Eastown, Delaware county, a few days ago, and instantly killed.

Mr. Samuel Carr, of Clearfield, was shot through the lungs, the other day, by another deer-hunter, and is now lying in a critical condition.

In Juniata township, Huntingdon county, a fine specimen of the American golden eagle was captured in a trap a few days ago, by a farmer named Heffner.

The contribution boxes in the Lutheran church at Licking creek, Juniata county, were rifled and the cover of the communion table stolen, a few nights ago.

A Harrisburg paper informs its readers that "when a gentleman and lady are walking upon the street, the lady should walk inside of the gentleman." How the lady is to do it is not stated.

The next meeting of the Board of Pardons will be on Tuesday, the 12th day of January, 1875, and thereafter the stated meeting of the Board will be on the second Tuesday of each month. By authority of the Board.

The office of the New Jersey Central Railroad Company at Landsford, near Tamaqua, was robbed of three thousand dollars in money and three thousand dollars in bonds on Friday night last. The watchman was seized and bound up in the vault by the robbers, who were masked.

Joseph Beck, of White Deer township, Lycoming county, lately had a fight with a she-bear, in which he would have come out second-best, had it not been for his dog, which came bravely to his rescue. Mr. Beck was several times in brain's clutches, but managed to kill her. He secured her three cubs.

The Harrisburg *Patriot* says: Puddlers in the' rolling mills of this city are now receiving from $4 10 to $4 50 per ton, a reduction of ninety cents in their wages having taken place recently. Since the panic the price for making a ton of puddled iron has fallen from $7 to the above figures. The highest ever paid was $8 10.

The rails on the Quarryhill branch of the Lancaster and Reading Railroad are now laid all the way through Lancaster and across the Conestoga bridge at Graeff's Landing, to which point the supply train now runs daily. Unless prevented by very bad weather, the laying of rails will progress at the rate of about two miles every week, and the total distance to Quarryville being fourteen miles, it is expected that the trains will commence running not later than the middle of February next.

A young lady in Cambria borough, tired of "going it alone," has married John Eighthower. It is altogether probable she will "order him up"—on winter mornings. —*Miners' Journal.* That is to say, if he likes to make the fire, she'll give him a chance "to make it." Next!—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*—No, it doesn't mean that; it means it he doesn't make the fire, she'll "assist" him, or else get euchred.—*Miners' Journal.*—Verily, the *Journal* man euchred the Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL when he took that item without giving the proper credit.

A letter from Butler to the *Derrick* contains the following: Surveys completed this week indicate that a railroad could be constructed between Butler and Franklin at the minimum of expense by following the easy grade of two or three streams. A company of Erie capitalists has secured vast tracts of coal lands in one of northern portion of the county, and to render these profitable it is proposed to build a railway as an early date to connect with the Lake Shore at Franklin and the West Penn here. The lands in question comprise thousands of acres of rich agricultural soil, abounding in coal of excellent quality, which would afford the projected road an immense freight business for years to come. The line is designed to run by way of Greece City and Murrinsville, and, once in operation, Oil City would then be within ninety minutes' travel of the lower oil districts. The promoters of the scheme talk as if they meant business, and it is to be hoped the coming spring will behold the enterprise fairly inaugurated, and twenty miles of rails, already secured, placed where they will do the most good.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Heap on the wood!—the wind is chill;
But let it whistle as it will,
We'll keep our Christmas merry still.
Each age has deemed the new-born year
The fittest time for festal cheer:
And well our Christian sires of old
Loved when the year its course had rolled,
And brought blithe Christmas back again
With all its hospitable train.

The sweetest superstition of this world is Old Santa Claus.

It begins to look as though Mullett would retain the position of Supervising Architect, after all.

The Michigan salt product this year has been 1,026,979 barrels, exceeding that of last year by 203,633 barrels.

To-day all the world should be glad with the luxury of giving and the costless liberality of kindly words and wishes.

Some New York philanthropists have just inaugurated an excellent enterprise. It is for the prevention of cruelty to children.

Once more the sun is on his annual journey northward. It will not be long until the voice of the turtle is again heard in the land.

An inspired blunder. A Chicago paper has a Washington dispatch, in which "Irwin's check" is printed "Irwin's cheek."

Let the loving Christmas spirit everywhere overflow the boundaries of home and family, giving comfort and pleasure to those less fortunate.

Coal in England is thirty-four shillings a ton, eight dollars and a half in gold. This is more than twice as much as the people of Pennsylvania pay.

Alliterative. Here are the names of the assistant aldermen who welcomed King Kalakaua to New York—Keenan, Kiefe, Kehoe, Keating, Keno.

Real estate in New York is declared by those familiar with the auction sales to have fallen from twenty to thirty per cent. from the prices of two years ago.

And now the question of wages is causing trouble in the iron, tin plate and coal trade of South Wales, England, and may result in a total stagnation of all the works.

A Wisconsin paper notes the fact that there is a sponge of the fungus growth in that State whose weight is 185 pounds. We didn't think Timely Topics weighed so much.

The lack of snow through the Northwest this season is generally noted as a very unusual circumstance. Its effect on the lumber trade, we are told, is certain to be beneficial.

Railway building in England promises to be active. No fewer than 182 new railway and tramway bills will come before Parliament in the course of the approaching session.

Better than the croakers would have it. In Nashua, N. H., nearly all the shops and mills are employing their full number of operatives, and all are at work on full time and at good wages.

A nice way of doing business. No surveys and plats of land grants have been recorded in the Virginia State Land Office for fifteen or twenty years, though the fees for record have been paid.

The receipts of wheat and flour at St. Louis during the year thus far, with over a week to spare, amount to 28,328,228 bushels, exceeding by 1,090,000 bushels the largest ever yet recorded in any full year.

The Secretary of War has ordered a survey to be made of the peninsula of Eastern Maryland and Delaware, with a view of ascertaining the best route for a ship canal between the Chesapeake and Delaware bays.

Who says we take no note of time? Our export trade in clocks is constantly increasing in quantity and in the number of foreign markets. During the four years ended June 30, 1874, we exported clocks to the value of $3,107,712.

But what's going to become of the Democrats? Father Bishop, a venerable Massachusetts spiritualist, somewhat given to prophesying, cheerfully foretells that, within six years, there will not be a wicked person on the earth.

OHIO NEWS.

A Lake county cider mill has ground 30,000 bushels of apples this season. Three thousand gallons of cider and four thousand gallons of applebutter were manufactured.

The rolling mill at Niles, operated by Mrs. Lizzie B. Ward, started up again on Wednesday last, with orders sufficient to warrant its continuance in running a month or two.

A little child of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Carius, of Marietta, was smothered to death one night last week. It was afflicted with croup, and in its struggles turned over on its face and died.

The Jackson *Standard* says: Orange furnace went out of blast last week, and there is talk that Star will not be operated much longer. This will leave only one of the six furnaces in town in blast—the Fulton.

Business is so poor in Huntsville, Logan county, that the town undertaker has advertised his hearse and funeral appurtenances for sale. As correspondent gravely hopes that some enterprising man will buy him out and take the business.

The Zanesville puddlers have struck because the rolling mill owners asked them to continue work at $6 00 per ton until the Pittsburgh price should be adjusted, there being an understanding that wages should be governed by the Pittsburgh standard.

Saturday night, near Logan, an altercation arose between one Jones and Kauthan as to the possessory right to a jug of whisky. Jones, becoming enraged as to the obstinacy of his adversary, struck him with a heavy piece of iron, from the effects of which he has since died.

The Ohio College Association will meet at Gambier, December 28th and 29th. The exercises will be the following addresses: Inaugural, by President Tappan, of Kenyon College; The College of the Future, by President Orton, of the Ohio Agricultural College; Post Graduate Courses and Degrees, by President Andrews, of Marietta College; Inter-Collegiate Contests, by Prof. Judson Smith, of Oberlin College; The Place of the Bible in a College Curriculum, by President Marsh, of Dennison University.

The Ripley correspondent of a Xenia paper thus explains the "Ripley angel:" "One of our wealthy citizens gave a party on the night in question, at which about one hundred and fifty of our 'best' citizens were present. A beautiful figure of an angel (cut out of marble) was suspended on wires above the entrance. It was very much admired, and a wag present immediately telegraphed to the Cincinnati papers. A great many of our townspeople were in ramcha in the dark as any until it gradually leaked out.

Three horses, frightened by an approaching train in Perry county, last week, ran ahead of the locomotive and fell through a bridge, hanging upon the ties, in which condition they were struck by the engine, literally cutting and crushing them to fragments. The bridge was completely demolished, throwing the engine, tender and nine loaded coal cars down an embankment, making a total wreck of them. The track was also torn up and destroyed to a distance of one hundred feet. Fortunately no one was injured.

At Middletown, Montgomery county, Dr. Carson was called to visit a young lady, a Miss Levison, whom he pronounced ill with scarlet fever. While administering medicine to the patient, she vomited slightly, some of the matter getting on one of his hands, on which was a scratch through the skin. The sore at once became inflamed, and began to swell, and became very painful. Indeed, it got so bad that the doctor was ill, and is confined to his bed. His case is deemed critical. Miss Levison grew worse in the meantime and died. Her mother, who assisted at her bedside, and who also got some vomit on her hand at the same time as Dr. Carson did, was also taken ill in the same manner, and died from the effects, as it is believed.

The Meadville *Republican* expects three hundred dairymen will be in attendance at the annual meeting of the Crawford County Dairymens' Association, to be held in that city in January, and proposes that a banquet be tendered by the businessmen of Meadville. It says the annual production of butter and cheese in this county is now over one million dollars, and bids fair to be largely increased. It claims that the transactions in that business must naturally tend to Meadville, and that business men should hold out all possible inducements to such an end.

Look Out for Dealers

that represent they have White River Flour under other brands. This is often done to make sales.

A Reward is Offered

for a flour that will make as much or as good bread as the great White River, for the price.

Lady Physicians.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

In the last twenty years Pittsburgh has made rapid strides in the arts of acquiring and wasting money. In these she has equaled every, if not distanced all, competitors; but in social science she seems to have fallen behind. It is thirty-two years since that agitation originated here which placed Pennsylvania at the head of the column on that march which is to secure to one half the race justice and equality before the law, and it is twenty-seven years since the old Keystone took that place by restoring to married women their long-lost natural right to own property; but while she has maintained and fortified the position then taken, she has been content with garrison duty, and has not made one step in advance, but has "staid by the stuff," while other States have come up from the rear and passed on far in advance.

On arriving in this, my native place, after long absence, the first sound that greets me, is the old "Song of the Shirt," the wail of women that "bread should be so dear and flesh and blood so cheap," while, among your wealth-accumulating thousands, not one woman has got out of the old ruts, not one has relieved the crowded basement of the labor market, by ascending even one story! Not one engaged in any of the learned professions, not one in any new and independent avocation! Some one tells me that there were two lady doctors, who attempted to establish themselves in Pittsburgh, and failed, although they were regular graduates of medical colleges, and had practiced in the hospitals of Paris and London. Mrs. Grundy frowned on them! None but the poor would employ them, and they were forced to retire.

I was talking on the subject, with a prominent physician of the city, and named a lady of Chicago as a successful practitioner. He opened his eyes, in that kind of wonder which a baby shows when he first discovers his hands, and said, "How does she dress?"

In his mind pantaloons and medical skill are inseparable, and, as many people regard "Mary Walker" and "female physician" as synonymous, let me answer his question here. I first saw this lady last June, while sitting by the bedside of my much-afflicted, much-abused and very dear friend, Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. I could see down into the street, where a fashionable carriage stopped, one of those small, close carriages designed for two persons, and drawn by two handsome, small black horses, in gold mounted harness, with a colored driver, in livery, mounted on the box. A lady alighted whom I supposed might be one of Mrs. Lincoln's many titled callers; but she was ushered into the room and introduced as Mrs. Doctor Gross. Her call was professional, and the small satchel in her hand was a case of medicines and instruments. I knew no one would ask me how she was dressed, and so tried to make it out. The bonnet was one of those indiscribable affairs which milliners made last spring, and had a small, black lace veil. The dress was *gros grain*, color black, train demi, bottom flounce broad and laid in "knife plaits," overskirt long, jaunier medium, gloves kid and boots ditto. She gave me that mixed idea of fuss and feathers which a fashionable woman of to-day always does, and, to me, they will look like French hens when the feathers turned up to catch the rain. But her face had none of the weariness, her voice none of the goneness inseparable from those of the ordinary devotee of fashion. So, I knew that her worship of the reigning deity was external, her chest was not crushed by corsets, her sides were not weakened by tight lacing, her digestive organs were not displaced by tight bands, there were no tight ligatures on her limbs, her boots were large enough, and her dry goods supported on her shoulders. She was breezy, chatty and hopeful. Her specialty, in medicine, is female diseases, and it is common for prominent male practitioners to have her called in when they feel that they have not the confidence of their lady patients. She is the fashion, and her large practice is principally among families of wealth and high social position.

I left her with her patient, and when her call was ended she went to another room for consultation with Dr. Danforth, one of the leading homeopathic physicians of the place. Her husband is a successful merchant, they have five children, and a happy, well-ordered home. She was the thirteenth lady doctor I had met in my very limited intercourse with the Chicago world.

Three of them are Helen Underwood. Our Helen, a homeopathist, taken the place of Mary Safford, one of the best surgeons of this country. A lady of wealthy family who preferred using her hands for the service of her fellows to strutting them into the fore-paws of a kangaroo to be hung in front. She married Dr. Blake, of Boston, and went there to practice in partnership with her husband, resigning her Chicago practice to Helen Underwood No. 1, who is a maiden lady, supporting her mother. Helen second is an allopathist, and successful, but I know no more of her than this, and that she dresses enough like other folks to attract no attention, but this they all do. Among the fifty or more successful lady doctors in that city, not one could be identified by any peculiarity in dress. The third Helen is an eclectic—has a husband of average business success, four children, and a pleasant home.

Mary Thompson, a maiden lady, is charged with "a masculine intellect," is an allopath, commands the respect of Rush College, meets in consultation with its foremost graduates and professors, is most womanly in appearance and ways, was mainly instrumental in re-establishing the "Hospital for Women and Children," which occupies a large, four-story brick building, is managed by women, its whole corps of physicians women, and turns out a half-dozen, or more, graduates every year.

I was, one evening, taking tea with Mrs. Dr. Bradley, when an urgent call came for her to go to a man very ill of pneumonia. One of Mrs. Bradley's sons got her buggy ready and took her. Her husband, whose office was down town, and who supplied a large district of country with lightning rods, had his day's work done, so stayed and entertained the guests. Their parlors were the brightest, their plants the finest I saw in the city, and he had a decided belief that a man would be very foolish to die of pneumonia when Mrs. Bradley was within call.

Another thing in which Chicago differs from Pittsburgh is the death rate among young married women. There does not seem, in proportion, to be more than half as many husbands who can sit, like the Irish emigrant, and weep for the wife who has gone before, "with her baby on her breast." Maternity is not so often fatal there, and women do not so often die, within three years after marriage, childless. There are so many women doctors in society in daily intercourse with so many women, professionally, and in so many other ways they know so much, scientifically and experimentally, of woman's sufferings and sorrows, of her dangers and diseases, and they have such a womanly habit of talking, that their knowledge spreads, and the number of women who are trying to learn the art of dressing so as to look well, without committing suicide, is steadily on the increase. The number of women who know that the birth of a living child is attended with less risk and pain than infanticide is growing rapidly; and the feeling grows that men who cannot study medicine in classes with women, without detriment to their morals, without being converted into ruffians, are very unsuitable persons to be admitted into the chambers of sick women and suffering children. Folks are beginning to see that, if it has always been right for women to attend sick men, as nurses, it cannot be very wrong for them to act for them as the director of nurses. The only difference in propriety must inhere in that of salary, and it is not so indelicate as formerly for a woman to get as much wages as a man for doing the same work. Two dollars for a ten or fifteen minutes call, in a sick chamber, does not make some women blush now, as any moment the same woman for a week's attendance there shocked a woman twenty years ago.

Some of your orthodox citizens may suppose that this dreadful state of Chicago society is due to this heresy of Sodom and Colyer, but this is a mistake. They have an old book in that city, which is thought to be a history of a nation supposed to be God's chosen people. They were called Jews, and once got into a state of captivity; but increased so rapidly as to alarm their masters. This increase was all by birth, and great success in rearing children. The King of the country in which they were slaves determined to put a stop to that business, and sent for their doctors. When they appeared the mystery was explained; for there were only two of them, and they were both women. He gave them a command, and his word was the only law in that country. This law was, that they should put all the male children to death as soon as they were born. This was a legal death warrant. It was "the Law of the Land." Moreover, as they were women and he was a man, they were doubly bound to obey, for are not all women born under the law of subjection to all men? and so their lives were doubly the forfeit of disobedience. Still they disobeyed, and, with that cunning which is the only function of the weak, they outwitted his majesty, and avoided the penalty, and the nation of slaves grew and grew, grew so rapidly that, to this day, social philosophers decry the possibility of such growth; but then the social philosophers of to-day never saw a nation with so few doctors, and they women. Well, the story of these doctors, and of how they preserved the lives of the babies, at the imminent risk of their own, has gone abroad all through Chicago. They read it in their churches, and think it is "Bible truth." They teach it in Sunday schools, and so a great many people have come to believe that women doctors are not inconsistent with a nation's growth, and that maybe women do know, or might possibly learn, something about babies. So they are going to give them a trial.

Now, if the people of Pittsburgh would send to Chicago and get a copy of that old book—there are several there—and read it in some public place, so that a great many people might assemble to hear it, some of them might learn that a nation, which would grow, had better employ women to take care of its babies.

JANE GRAY SWISSHELM.

The Washington correspondent of the Springfield *Republican* says: "Somebody asked Beck, of Kentucky, what the policy of the Democrats would be when they got control of the House of Representatives, and he replied: 'We shall have no policy. If we attempt it we shall break down. But we can, with safety, undertake to show up the rottenness of the Republicans, and thus put them and keep them on the defensive.' This probably is to be the line to be pursued by the opposition next winter."

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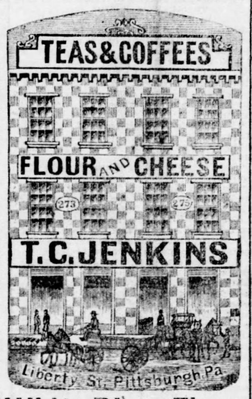

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FOR SALE — FORTY SUPERIOR second-hand Rollers, in good order, ranging from 30 inches to 11 inches in diameter, and 10 feet to 40 feet long; double-head and cylinder. County Inspector's certificate of test with each boiler. Repairing done promptly at the West Point Boiler Works, No. 13 Water street. WATSON & MUNROE.

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FOR RENT—55 MARKET STREET—Basement, the handsomest Iron Front Building, 55 Market street, adjoining N. Holmes & Sons, with or without a large Warehouse in rear. Inquire of JNO. HOLMES & SONS, or of JOHN WAY, Jr., Sewickley, Pa.

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NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application has been made for the Renewal of Certificate No. 362 for Three Hundred Shares of Stock of the EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH, issued to SARAH ST

The Commercial.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1874.

A MERRY Christmas! No paper will be issued from this office to-morrow.

THURMAN says the first two sections of the Finance bill are "all right." Is that the reason why he voted against them?

THE *Courier-Journal* observes that "the liars are unusually busy." Glancing over the editorial columns of the opposition press, the same thought has repeatedly occurred to us.

IRWIN, the contumacious, subsidy-buying witness, is shrewd. He manages to continue just sick enough to keep out of jail. Wonder what is the exact cost of medical certificates, in Washington?

THE conversion of the Indianapolis *Journal* to the financial doctrines of the gold dealers of the East, is more sudden and radical than that of SAUL on his way to Damascus. It looks a trifle suspicious.

SO IT GOES. All the late strikers at the Troy Iron Works of JOHN A. GRISWOLD & Co., except the puddlers, have yielded, and it is said that the question with the latter is likely to be settled speedily in favor of the company.

A WESTERN Democratic paper says the most notable phenomenon observable in the proceedings of Congress, this session, is "the increased aggressiveness of the Democratic minority." Just so. When the earth grows warm, the snakes crawl forth from their winter dens.

IT HAS leaked out in the course of the Pacific Mail investigation that the famous banquet given to the Japanese Embassy two or three years ago by JAMES BROOKS, of Credit Mobilier fame, which cost $20,000, was paid for out of the Pacific Mail corruption fund. Has our Democratic neighbor "the heart to moralize" on this?

THE presence of miners in the Black Hills, and the fact of their finding gold in paying quantities, even at this most unfavorable season of the year for gulch mining, seem to be beyond doubt. But, from present appearances, their explorations are more likely to result in the discovery of a Helldorado than of anything else.

WILL the *Post* make a note of the instructive fact that even the Southern traveling corresponding of the New York *Times*, who never misses an opportunity of saying a soft word for the Democracy, or a harsh one for the Republicans, whenever it presents itself, is constrained to admit that "the State government of Mississippi is one of the best in the South, and that against Governor AMES no charge of corruption or trickery of any kind has yet been made?"

A PHILADELPHIA correspondent of the New York *Times*, writing of the Senatorial contest in this State, eulogizes JERRY BLACK as "an honest man and a patriot," and declares that "in those sombre closing days of BUCHANAN'S administration it was Judge BLACK'S firmness alone that prevented the sacrifice of ANDERSON and a complete surrender to the secessionists." Whew! After this we shall not believe there is *any* limit to the possibilities of human imagination.

THE Williamsport *Gazette and Bulletin* puts down among the officers of the State Senate, "one clerk to Committee of Ways and Means, one ditto to Finance Committee, and one ditto to Committee to Compare Bills," at $800 each. There are no such officers, and there is no such committee in the Senate as the Committee of Ways and Means. The act of 1874 expressly provides that the Speaker and Clerk of each House shall assign one transcribing clerk to act as clerk to the Committee of Ways and Means in the House, the Finance Committee in Senate and the Committees to Compare Bills, "*without additional compensation.*"

THE Democratic cry sent up by the New York *World* and its Democratic coadjutors throughout the country, both before and after the November elections, was for "Hard Money;" yet when a bill came up in the Senate fixing a day for the resumption of specie payments, *every Democratic Senator voted against it!* The bill has now gone to the House; and if it passes there, will be passed against the united opposition of the Democratic members. They do not want the financial question settled. They want to keep it open, to prolong the hard times, to keep the country in a suffering condition, and so, if possible, maintain the hold upon power they have lately secured. A return to good times would be fatal to them, and they know it, hence their one purpose, now, is to prevent, if possible, any legislation that will relieve the country of its troubles. Party, with them, is above country and above everything else.

THE receipts from all sources into the State Treasury for the year ending November 30, 1872, were $6,738,347; for the year ending November 30, 1873, they were $7,077,073, while for the year ending November 30, 1874, they were only $5,871,968. This is a falling off of $1,205,105 from last year, and $868,378 from the year before, and was caused by the repeal last winter of the tax on manufacturing corporations and on gross receipts of railroad companies. It is therefore safe to conclude that under our present tax laws the State revenue cannot exceed six millions annually—a permanent reduction of one million a year. When to this permanent reduction is added the increased appropriation to schools, $500,000, increased legislative expenses, $225,000, and increased judiciary expenses, $125,000—in all $850,000, it will be seen that the State will have little or nothing to spare for charitable and reformatory institutions, and that class of applicants will have to be content with little or nothing.

CROP ESTIMATES are almost always tinged and affected by the wishes of those who make them. The cotton crop has always been under-estimated; the dealers in that article being constantly anxious to run prices up. The crop of 1874 was estimated at 3,350,000 bales, and will exceed that figure at least 400,000 bales. At current prices this should yield about $200,000,000, and we note in one of the Southern papers an admission that the crop has been gathered at a cost *fifteen millions of dollars less* than the same kind of crop was gathered in the times of slavery. The South, therefore, is producing as much as she did before the war, and at less cost, and should be ashamed of putting up the cry of poverty which is heard in every portion of her borders. She has lost her slave property, but she is able to do better without it than with it. So that what she bewails as a loss is really a gain. With her sugar and rice crops, in addition to the cotton crop, and with the increased attention paid to cultivating cereals for her own consumption, the South is, in reality, more prosperous to-day than she has been at any period of her previous history.

THE SCHOOL BILL.

We gave, in our local columns, on Wednesday, an abstract of the provisions of a new School bill which the Legislature will be asked to enact this winter. It proposes an entire revolution in our school system, by transferring the control of it from the people to the courts. It proposes to take away from the people, altogether, the right to elect School Directors, and by conferring the power of appointment on the courts, deprives the people of their inherent right to be consulted in the imposition of the taxes which they have to pay.

We are not prepared, to-day, to go into an extended discussion of this new measure; but, to avoid all future misapprehension, we put ourselves on record, now, as being most decidedly opposed to it. We regard it as radically wrong and indefensible. It is based upon the idea that the people are incapable of self-government. We do not believe in any such doctrine, and shall fight any measure which attempts to deprive us masses of the people of their inborn right to manage their own affairs in their own way. We have heretofore, on various occasions, protested against the tendency to heap power upon the courts, as one fraught with serious danger to the integrity of our Republican form of government, and we protest against this measure because it adds to the already overburdened power of our judicial tribunals.

Our courts were intended to form a distinct co-ordinate branch of government, that of interpreting the laws, of punishing violations of them, and of enforcing justice between man and man. That is their function, and they should be confined to it exclusively. The legislative power belongs to representatives directly chosen by the people, the executive power to executive officers also chosen by them, and the tax-levying power belongs of right to those who are chosen especially for that purpose by those who are affected by their action. This is, in our judgment, a perfectly safe division of power. What good reason is there for disturbing it? The courts have enough to do, in all conscience, without being burdened with the endless details of the school system, and as they are now confessedly pure and untainted, the surest way of keeping them so is to confine them to their legitimate functions.

The chief grievance of our revolutionary fathers was taxation without representation, and one of the heavy charges contained in the Declaration of Independence against the parent government was that they were taxed without being consulted. The men of that day claimed the right to elect those who levied taxes upon them, so that they might have in their hands the power of resisting the imposition of unjust or burdensome taxation. They secured that right for themselves, and transmitted it to us; and now it is gravely proposed to give it up and transfer to the courts the power to appoint the men who are to impose taxation upon us for school purposes. For one we say no, most emphatically. Our present school system undoubtedly has some defects; but the way to remove them is to trust the cure of them to the people, and not to *distrust* them, as this proposed measure does. The people are the legitimate source of all political power; and if *they* cannot be trusted, who can?

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Christmas may be justly characterized as the greatest festival of the Christian year, and in the feeling with which the adherents of divers sects regard the anniversary, there is probably a noteworthy harmony. They each and all call to mind the nativity of a benefactor; and whatever differences of belief or opinion may exist among them as to His origin or as to the appropriate mode of commemorating His birthday, they agree in considering Him as the greatest benefactor of the human race. To every man of the Christian name He is the Great Teacher who brought life and immortality to light by declaring them with authority, and stressing the revelation by His life and His death; He is the great exemplar of all virtues and graces, who in all His words and acts verified the mission of peace on earth and good will among men: He is the son of God who came as He was sent into the world, not to condemn it but that the world through Him might have life. With whatever differences of interpretation the statements of the Gospels concerning Him are accepted by all who make profession of the religion called by His name, and under the influence of the conceptions and memories thus made common the manifold branches of the vast Christian society, as Christmas each year returns, are more or less animated by a common sentiment. Some of them have religious exercises and ceremonies deemed appropriate to the anniversary, while others regard it in such negative, but from time immemorial the season has been observed in greater or smaller degree by all as a season of social joy and gladness.

Even the attempts of powerful ecclesiastical organizations to suppress any outward manifestation of the exhilliration inspired by the time have signally failed, or have succeeded only for a while. Perhaps one might say that the feeling is in the air. In the days antecedent to the rise and diffusion of the graphics and the ologies, in the unscientific times of our forefathers, various superstitions were associated with the Christmas tide. Every schoolboy can tell what some of these were. It was believed, for example, that for a while before and after the great day no evil spirit dared stir about; indeed, that all ghosts of whatever character kept closely to their quarters. Many, most likely, remember the passage in which SHAKESPEARE mentions the fancy. "So gracious and so holy is the time"—was the reason given for the absence of all malign influences, of whatever could injure or disturb. Though the old superstition has vanished, somewhat of the sentiment which accompanied it still remains. As the memorable anniversary draws near, it is no exaggeration to say that young people first, and then their seniors, show signs of lively and pleasing anticipation. In the household, in the streets, in the schools, unwonted excitement begins to prevail, an excitement rendered only more intense by partial suppression. And on the evening before the great day, towns and even populous cities seem to be stirred with fresh life in preparation for the enjoyments of the coming festival. In expectation of presents of toys, books, etc., and of good things to eat, children undoubtedly feel that the time is blessed, and in most cases with much justification may even outdo their hopes. Surely, for them, one such holiday in the year is a good thing, quite independently of the higher associations of the day: due care being taken to give the historical and spiritual relations of the day becoming distinctness in their imagination, the holiday may be not only an unmixed good, but a permanent blessing.

It may be, however, that those austere thinkers who, sympathizing or not with the old English Puritans and some of the Scotch Presbyterians, refuse to approve of general merry-making at Christmas, do not always receive justice. It seems so ungenial, so unkindly, to denounce such harmless jollification, that in this liberal age few venture to express the antiquated view, and those who do express it are usually misunderstood, even if they gain a hearing. Their whole way of looking at things is unpopular. They allege that for persons of mature age the only legitimate joy in recollection of Christ's advent and mission in the world is a joy largely modified by grief in view of the imperfect measure in which His teaching is practiced and His example followed even among the most Christian people. They therefore deny the right of any so-called Christian society, as a whole, to celebrate His nativity as an event in which all may rejoice as if it secured them a heritage of good. They assert that the most Christian nation is not a nation of Christians, that the most Christian city or neighborhood is not a city or neighborhood of Christians, and that a celebration which is adapted to impress the young with the opposite belief is purely mischievous. Looking back some years, we see Christian nations engaged in the slave trade. We see Christian Portuguese in Brazil placing garments infected with small-pox and other contagious diseases in the way of the pagan Indians for the purpose of exterminating them. We see Christian Spaniards hunting the natives of Central and South America as if they were wild beasts. We see Christian women in Australia mingling arsenic with the bread baked for begging "blacks." We see Christian Englishmen in Tasmania shooting natives for meat whereon to feed their dogs. Within the memory of living generations, English Christians waged war on China to compel the Chinese to poison themselves with opium. At the present moment, while a few English missionaries are trying to convert the Hindoos and Mussulmans of India to the Christian faith, the great mass of their compatriots in the same country are preaching a gospel more or less antagonistic, to the Gospel of Christ. "The reason why Christian missions have so very little direct effect in India," lately said the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "is that they do not represent the real teaching of the English nation," a thesis which the able journal named illustrated and proved with satisfactory clearness. In fact, nobody acquainted with the subject needed either proof or illustration. Nine hundred and ninety-nine, it is safe to say, of every thousand Europeans in India show by their lives, if not by their words, that they do not accept the creed which the missionaries preach as the religion of Europe. Nor may we flatter ourselves that in their position Americans would appear to greater advantage. The American ships which used to carry American missionaries to the Levant, usually had New England rum for their cargo, and even as to India, it was an American publishing house which, through a Boston vessel, first sent an entire large edition of PAINE'S Age of Reason for sale among the English-reading Hindoos of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

And yet it is still true that the least effectually Christianized Christian nation is, upon the whole, much more moral and humane than the most heathen people. They who

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DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF
SCRAP IRON, METAL AND STEEL.
Also, Rolling Mills and Forges supplied with IRON CUT TO ORDER or FAGGOTED, as I have Two (2) Sets of Rolling Mill Shears constantly running, cutting Iron for Forging and other purposes.
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M'Keesport Iron Works,
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STEAM BOILERS, &C.

ECLIPSE
SAFETY STEAM
BOILERS!
Stationary, Portable and Marine
5 to 1,000 Horse Power.

The advantages over other Boilers secured by the Eclipse are:
First—Safety from risk of destructive explosion.
Second—Economy in Space and Fuel.
Third—Durability of Material.
Fourth—Convenience of access to every part.
Fifth—Simplicity of Fixtures, Connections and Form of Construction.
Sixth—Facility of Cleaning.
Seventh—Freedom from Expansion, Strains and Leaks.
Eighth—Effective circulation attained by the tubes and large returns.
Ninth—Steam Generators are adapted to heavy or light service, high or low pressure, or steady and uneven work.
The Castings are made of Semi-Steel; the Tubes are Lap-welded, the ends of which, by one of which gives a rapid and powerful circulation of water for removing a thin scale, perfect adjustment, provides for expansion and contraction. The Sectional Form allows the Boiler to be increased, diminished or divided without damage to parts, and the improved Lock-Nut does away with caulking, packing or gaskets.

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MANUFACTURING CO.,
SHARPSBURG, PA.,
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87 Wood Street, Pittsburgh.
Illustrated Circulars and Estimates furnished.

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N. SNYDER & CO.,
Manufacturers of
STEAM BOILERS, OIL TANKS, STILLS, AGITATORS, SALT PANS, GASOMETERS, SET-TING-IRONS, PERFECT DRYING PIPES, CHIMNEYS, BRICHEN FIRE BEDS, &c.
Cor. Second Avenue and Liberty Street,
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Repairing done promptly. Orders sent to the above address will be promptly attended to.

MANUFACTURERS.

ROOFS.
Wm. B. Scaife & Sons,
119 and 121 First Avenue,
PITTSBURGH, PA.,
Erect in Any Part of the United States,
Iron Roof Frames
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Iron Mill Buildings
COVERED WITH
CORRUGATED IRON,
MANUFACTURERS OF
Corrugated Iron,
FOR ROOFING OR SIDING WOODEN FRAME BUILDINGS.
The demand for CORRUGATED IRON increases yearly as its merits become known, for Sidings, as well as Covering all classes of Manufacturing Establishments where it is desirable to decrease the amount of wood used as a safety from fire.

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PRACTICAL
Plumber, Gas and Steam Fitter,
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Gas Fixtures, Lead Pipe, Sheet Lead,
Pumps and Hose.
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STEEL MANUFACTURERS.
STEEL CASTINGS,
UNDER HAINSWORTH'S PATENT.
We are making Steel Castings, Smooth, True, Free from Honeycomb, and Possessing Very High Polish. Can be Forged or Welded easily as Bar Steel, and Stronger as Forged Steel. Send for Circular.
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Black Diamond Steel Works.
PARK, BROTHER & CO.,
Manufacturers of All Descriptions of
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Office and Warehouse: Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Railroad streets, Pittsburgh.

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MANUFACTURERS OF
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Of Every Description; Also, BEST
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Manufacturers of All Descriptions of
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BEST REFINED TOOL CAST STEEL.
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CIRCULAR AND LONG SAW FILES.
ELLIPTIC, PLATFORM and SEAT SPRINGS.
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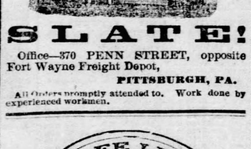

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Office—370 PENN STREET, opposite Fort Wayne Freight Depot,
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All Orders promptly attended to. Work done by experienced workmen.

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People's Insurance Company
OF PITTSBURGH.
Office, No. 100 FOURTH AVENUE, (English Buildings.)
Insures Against Loss or Damage by Fire on Dwellings, Stores and other Buildings; Furniture, Household Goods and Stocks of Merchandize.
Insures Marine and Inland Risks on Steamboats and Freight at as liberal rates as are consistent with security. Losses promptly adjusted and paid.

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Manufacturers and Merchants' INSURANCE COMPANY,
67 WOOD STREET, PITTSBURGH, PA.
FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE
CAPITAL, $250,000
ASSETS, $371,679 07. JANUARY 1, 1874.

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Western Insurance Company
OF PITTSBURGH.
INCORPORATED APRIL, 1843.
CAPITAL - $225,000.
FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.
LOSSES PROMPTLY ADJUSTED AND PAID
Office—First National Bank Building, corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street.

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OF PITTSBURGH.
INCORPORATED, 1854.
Cash Capital, $175,000
Insures against Fire and Marine Losses.
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Charles Atwell, David McCandless,
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Citizens' Insurance Company,
OF PITTSBURGH.
Office—No. 131 Smithfield street, second door from City Hall.

WM. BAGALEY.....President
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Insures Steamboats and Cargoes. Insures against loss and damage by fire on Steamboats on the Ohio and Western Rivers, Lakes and Bayous, and the Inland Lakes.
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Barclay Preston, Capt. Wm. E. Haslett,
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Franklin Fire Ins. Co., of Philad'a,
ORGANIZED 1829.
CASH ASSETS . . . $3,500,000.
J. G. COFFIN & CO., Agents,
Corner Third avenue and Wood streets,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Strength is Security!
ASSETS $10,000,000 GOLD.
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J. G. COFFIN & CO., Agents,
Cor. Third Avenue and Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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XMAS GIFTS!
OTTOMANS, HASSOCKS, Rugs, Mats, Embroidered Table and Piano Covers, just opened in great variety of Newest Styles.
O. M'CLINTOCK & CO.
CARPETS AND OIL CLOTHS---A full stock of all descriptions at low prices, and with every facility for Laying and Upholstering.
O. M'CLINTOCK & CO.
DRUGGETS---A Large Assortment of the Newest Patterns in every width, including Crumb Cloths, Feltings, Rugs, &c.
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23 FIFTH AVENUE.
CARPETS!
SPLENDID ASSORTMENT!
Elegant Designs!
LOWEST PRICES,
All Grades.
BOVARD, ROSE & CO.,
NEW NO. 29 FIFTH AVE.

J. & H. PHILLIPS,
Manufacturers and Dealers in
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GREEN SHADE CLOTH A SPECIALTY.
Also Agents for the BOSTON BELTING CO.'S RUBBER BELTING HOSE, STEAM PACKING, &c.
Dealers in LEATHER BELTING, LACE, LEATHER and RUBBER GOODS GENERALLY.
PAINTING, GRAINING and GLAZING.
Nos. 26 and 28 SIXTH STREET,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

PROPOSALS.
OFFICE OF CONTROLLER OF ALLEGHENY CO., Pittsburgh, Pa., December 24, 1874.
Notice to Butchers and Bakers.
Sealed Proposals
Directed to the Board of Inspectors of Allegheny County Prison, will be received at this Office until the 30TH INST., inclusive, for Furnishing the County Jail with good Rolling Beef, from time to time, for six months, beginning on the 15th of January, 1875, to be delivered daily in such quantities as the Warden or his Agent may direct.
ALSO,
SEALED PROPOSALS, directed as above, will be received at this office until the 30TH INST., inclusive, for Furnishing the County Jail with good Rolling Beef, from time to time, for six months, beginning on the 15th of January, 1875, to be delivered daily in such quantities as the Warden or his Agent may direct.
HENRY WARNER,
Secretary Board of Prison Inspectors.

ALLEGHENY ARSENAL, Pittsburgh, Pa., December 21, 1874.
PROPOSALS FOR FRESH BEEF.
SEALED PROPOSALS in duplicate for supplying the troops at this Post with FRESH BEEF for six months, commencing the 1ST DAY OF JANUARY, 1875, will be received by the undersigned until 10 o'clock A. M. DECEMBER 28TH, 1874.
The names of two reliable bondsmen will be required with the proposals.
The Beef must be of the best quality, from the highest grade of Cattle—Necks, Shanks and Sucet excluded, and is subject to inspection by the proper Agent of the Subsistence Department.
All further particulars may be obtained at the office of the undersigned.
O. E. MICHEALIS,
Captain of Ordnance, A. C. S.

SAFE LIGHT IT Cannot be Exploded.
ELAINE
THE FAMILY SAFEGUARD
OIL.
WARDEN & OXNARD,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

FINANCIAL.

ST. CLAIR BANKING COMPANY,
No. 16 SIXTH STREET,
Transact a General Banking Business. Draw Bills of Exchange on J. S. Morgan & Co., London, and Belfast Banking Co., Belfast; execute orders in Stocks, Bonds and Gold at the New York and Philadelphia Stock Boards, on Commission only. Stocks carried on a margin and contracts guaranteed.
ROBERT ARTHURS, President.
L. HALSEY WILLIAMS, Cashier.

ROAD TO FORTUNE
IN WALL STREET.
Money invested in PUTS, CALLS and DOUBLE PRIVILEGES has paid 200 per cent. profit the past month. Small or large amounts pay proportionately. The wealthiest operators protect themselves with these contracts, and also use them as Capital to buy and sell Stocks against. Pamphlet giving full explanation sent on application. Stocks Bought and Sold on Three Per Cent. Margin. Address
DARRAGH, BRIDGEMAN & Co
BANKERS AND BROKERS,
52 & 56 Broadway and 7 Exchange Court,
P. O. Box 5626. NEW YORK. d

BANKS AND BANKERS.
People's Savings Bank
OF PITTSBURGH.
CAPITAL.....$300,000
INCORPORATED 1866.
No. 81 FOURTH AVENUE,
Next below the Safe Deposit Company.
HENRY ELOYD.....President.
WM. ELDER.....Vice President.

TRUSTEES:
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SIDNEY E. WOY, RONNHORST.
secretary and Treasurer.
Six Per Cent. Interest allowed on Time Deposits.
Investments made in Government and Real Estate Securities.
Bank open daily, except Sundays, from 9 o'clock A. M. to 4 o'clock, P. M., and on Saturday Evenings, from 6 to 9 o'clock.

The Tradesmen's National Bank
HAS REMOVED TO ITS
New Banking Rooms,
Cor. Wood St. and Fourth Ave.,
Where its Officers will be pleased to see all its old customers and such new ones as may favor it with their patronage.

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CYRUS CLARKE, JR.....Cashier.

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL BANK,
OF PITTSBURGH,
NO. 33 FIFTH AVENUE.
CAPITAL STOCK - - $500,000

J. W. COOK.....President.
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W. McCANDLESS.....A. Cashier.

Allegheny Homestead Bank,
118 WOOD ST., Pittsburgh.
CAPITAL $200,000
Stockholders Individually liable.
Discount days Tuesday and Friday. Six per cent. interest paid on Time Deposits. Deposits received from one dollar and upwards.

W. P. PENNY, President.
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MWS

CENTRAL BANK,
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CAPITAL.....$100,000.
Bank of Discount and Deposit.
Stockholders Individually Liable.
INTEREST ALLOWED ON TIME DEPOSITS.
Collections made on all the principal cities of the United States and Canadas.

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THE
SAFE DEPOSIT CO.,
OF PITTSBURGH,
Chartered by Special Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, for the
Safe Keeping of Valuables,
UNDER GUARANTEE, AND THE
Renting of Safes
IN ITS
FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF VAULTS.
BUILDING AND OFFICE:
No. 83 FOURTH AVENUE, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Office Hours—From 8 o'clock A. M. to 5 o'clock P. M.
President.....HENRY LLOYD.
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Secretary and Treasurer.....WM. LITTLE.

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BANKERS,
57 MARKET STREET, Pittsburgh
DEPOSITS RECEIVED IN PAR FUNDS AND CURRENCY.
COLLECTIONS MADE ON ALL THE PRINCIPAL POINTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADAS.

STOCKS, BONDS AND OTHER SECURITIES
Bought and Sold on Commission.
HART, CAUGHEY & CO.
BANKERS AND BROKERS,
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PITTSBURGH, PA.,
(Successors to HANNA, HART & CO.,)
Dealers in Exchange, Coin, Coupons, &c.
Particular attention paid to the Purchase and Sale of GOVERNMENT BONDS.
SIGHT DRAFTS ON LONDON.

B. K. JAMISON. W. M. STEWART. J. H. KERSHOW.
ESTABLISHED 1853.
B. K. Jamison & Co.,
BANKERS,
N. W. Cor. Third and Chestnut Sts., Phila.
Dealers in Pittsburgh Bonds and all other Investment Securities.
Loans negotiated on marketable collaterals at current rates.
Deposits of Banks and Bankers received, subject to check at sight. Interest allowed according to agreement.

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PHILADELPHIA,
Dealers in GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, GOLD SILVER, &c.
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Commercial Paper Negotiated. Gold and Government Securities Bought and Sold at Market Rates.
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PITTSBURGH FLINT GLASS WORKS
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Factory, Office and Warehouse, BINGHAM STREET, between Eighth and Ninth streets, South Side, Pittsburgh.
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WARING BROS.,
Successors to Waring & King,
Commission Merchants in Petroleum and its Products,
42 Fifth Avenue,
Philadelphia address, WARING BROTHERS & CO., 30 Walnut street.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 24, 1874.

On Christmas eve the course of events is such as to preclude any extended notice of monetary matters. Judging from the crowds of busy buyers on Fifth avenue, we would not be led to the opinion that money is a scarce article, and that a "rigid personal economy" was being practiced by every individual of the community. Hard times we have had, yet in spite of the times the generous impulses of humanity show themselves and shine the more brightly in contrast with the sombre surroundings. That the richest country in the world, in point of natural resources, should be overtaken by "hard times," as ours has been, is sometimes a puzzle to those who pay little attention to cause and effect. The fact is, the conditions that make a nation rich or poor, prosperous or languishing, are precisely the same as those affecting the fortunes of individuals, though they are vastly more complex in their workings and less easily traced in their results.

The grand financial maxim laid down by the philosopher Micaiber regarding the relations of income and outgo is to the point: "Annual income, twenty pounds; annual expenditure, nineteen pounds nineteen shillings and sixpence—result, happiness. Annual income, twenty pounds; annual expenditure, twenty pounds and sixpence—result, misery." As to the individual, so to the nation. This is the legitimate basis of business, health and prosperity.

High and low, all have lived too extravagantly, and the time has come for retrenchment and a better economy. Yet it is time enough to begin to economize with the new resolutions for the new year, during the holidays. It is better to go back to the motto of old Thomas Tosser in the "Farmer's Daily Diet," writ in 1530:

"At Christmas play and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year."

OFFICE OF TRADE & STOCKS,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET,
NEW YORK, December 23, 1874.

To the Editors of The Pittsburgh Commercial:

The stock market has shown considerable improvement to-day, both as to prices and the general feeling on the street. The weather has been firm since morning, with quite large transactions between 29½@29¾, but there have been no new favorable developments occurring it. Pacific Mail has been very active all day, and after opening at 35, it fell to 34¾ and rallied to 35 at last accounts. It looks to me as if the friends of Mr. Gould have been large buyers of this stock all day. Northwestern common has been conspicuous for its strength since the opening, and it sold at 46 toward the close against 44½ this morning. Wabash has even felt the effect of an improved feeling in the market, and closes at about 24¾ against 23¾ at the 1 o'clock board. From a careful examination of the situation this afternoon, we are impressed with the idea that stocks have for the most part reached their lowest quotations, and our most conservative houses express the opinion that there is likely to be a sharp recovery in prices next month. Money remains easy at 4 per cent. on call.

Yours truly,
TEASE & STONE.

—The following table shows the price of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 24, 1874.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	111¾	111¾	111¾	111¾	111¾	
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup.	123½		123¼		123¼	
U. S. 6's, 1881, reg.	123½		123¼		123¼	
U. S. 5-20's, 1864	113½		113½		113½	
U. S. 5-20's, 1865	115½		115½		115½	
U. S. 5-20's, 1865, new	120		119¾		119¾	
U. S. 5-20's, 1867, coup	121¾		121¾		121¾	
U. S. 5-20's, 1868	121½		121½		121½	
U. S. 5-20's, 1868	121		121¼		121¼	
U. S. 10-40's, coupons	114		114		114	
U. S. 10-40's, reg.	113½		113½		113½	
New 5's per cents	113½		113½		113½	
Central Pacific 1st's	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	
Quicksilver	35		35		35	
Pacific Mail	35	35¼	35	35	35	35¼
Panama	114		114		114	
Adams Express	106		106		106	
Wells-Fargo Express	82½		82½		82½	
American Express	62		62		62	
United States Express	50		50		50	
New York Central	100½		100¾		100¾	
Erie	26¾	26¾	26¾	27	26¾	
Michigan Central	83½	83½	82		82	
Michigan Southern	80¾	79¾	80	80¾	80¾	
Illinois Central	98½		98½		98½	
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	94		94		94	
Chicago & Northwestern	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾
Rock Island	101½		101½		101½	101¾
St. Paul, common	26	26¼	26		26	
Do preferred	53		53		53	
Wabash	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾
Fort Wayne	93		93		93	
Ohio & Mississippi	30¾	30¾	30¾		30¾	
Union Pacific	35	35	35	35	35	34¾
Harlem	127		127		127	
Hudson Canal & St. Joe Iron Mountain	28		28		28	
C., R. I. & P.	93		93		93	
Tennessee, old	78		77		77	
Tennessee, new	77		77		77	
South Carolina, Apr.	26		26		26	
South Carolina, July	26		26		26	
Missouri 6's	92		92		92	

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	50¾	
Pennsylvania Central scrip	105¾	
Reading	55	55¾
United Companies of N. Jersey, extra dividend	127½	
Old Creek	54	55
Lehigh Valley	61½	62
Allegheny Valley, sales	91¾	
Central Transportation, sales	41	
Empire Transportation		55
P. C. & St. L. mortgage bonds	78¾	
Gold		111¾

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 25, 1874.

The features of the Petroleum market yesterday were an upward tendency to crude oil, making an advance on quotations for United at wells of about 2½c, while a slight decline in refined was reported from New York.

CRUDE.

We quote United at wells at 71½@73½c. Union do 65@70c; Immediate shipment 70@ 72½c. Sales of 80,000 barrels are reported from Parker's.

REFINED.

The market for refined continues steady, but not quite as firm as heretofore. New York quotations are a shade off from previous prices. We quote at 19½@19¾c for standard white on the cars.

New York—Refined is quoted at 11¾c for spot.

Philadelphia—Refined, prompt delivery, is quoted at 11¾c.

OIL BARRELS

are unchanged at $1 30@1 35 for city-made; $1 20@1 25 for country.

TITUSVILLE, December 24.—The *Courier* says: There was a more lively market in the lower oil field, and an increase in price. Considerable oil changed hands, and the market presented a healthy appearance, closing firm at outside figures, Sales:

1,400 bbls, upper road, spot.....91½c
800 bbls Parkers Field, spot.....90 c
1,200 bbls, Oil City, spot.....90 c
1,000 bbls, Parkers Field, spot.....90 c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, United, at wells.....91½c
5,500 bbls, Parkers, Union, at wells.....95 c

NEW YORK, December 24, closing.—The transactions are still moderate. Crude in bulk is quoted at 9¾c; refined 18½c; cases 19½@19¾c for shipment; city naphtha at 10c. Pure Philadelphia delivery. There is a strong market; with limited quotations at 19¾c.

TITUSVILLE, December 24.—Market nominal at 90@95c.

OIL CITY, December 24.—Market nominally 90c.

TIDIOUTE, December 24.—Market very firm at 61½c bid.

ROUSEVILLE, December 24.—Market quiet and held firm at 71½c.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 24.—Market quiet and firm at 80@85c.

—The following table shows the price of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 24, 1874.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	111¾	111¾	111¾	111¾	111¾	
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup.	123½		123¼		123¼	
U. S. 6's, 1881, reg.	123½		123¼		123¼	
U. S. 5-20's, 1864	113½		113½		113½	
U. S. 5-20's, 1865	115½		115½		115½	
U. S. 5-20's, 1865, new	120		119¾		119¾	
U. S. 5-20's, 1867, coup	121¾		121¾		121¾	
U. S. 5-20's, 1868	121½		121½		121½	
U. S. 5-20's, 1868	121		121¼		121¼	
U. S. 10-40's, coupons	114		114		114	
U. S. 10-40's, reg.	113½		113½		113½	
New 5's per cents	113½		113½		113½	
Central Pacific 1st's	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	
Quicksilver	35		35		35	
Pacific Mail	35	35¼	35	35	35	35¼
Panama	114		114		114	
Adams Express	106		106		106	
Wells-Fargo Express	82½		82½		82½	
American Express	62		62		62	
United States Express	50		50		50	
New York Central	100½		100¾		100¾	
Erie	26¾	26¾	26¾	27	26¾	
Michigan Central	83½	83½	82		82	
Michigan Southern	80¾	79¾	80	80¾	80¾	
Illinois Central	98½		98½		98½	
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	94		94		94	
Chicago & Northwestern	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾
Rock Island	101½		101½		101½	101¾
St. Paul, common	26	26¼	26		26	
Do preferred	53		53		53	
Wabash	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾
Fort Wayne	93		93		93	
Ohio & Mississippi	30¾	30¾	30¾		30¾	
Union Pacific	35	35	35	35	35	34¾
Harlem	127		127		127	
Hudson Canal & St. Joe Iron Mountain	28		28		28	
C., R. I. & P.	93		93		93	
Tennessee, old	78		77		77	
Tennessee, new	77		77		77	
South Carolina, Apr.	26		26		26	
South Carolina, July	26		26		26	
Missouri 6's	92		92		92	

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, December 24, 1874.

Corrected by Harris & Ewing, Wholesale Druggists:

Acid.				Magnesia

CITY MATTERS.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 8, Ft. National Bank, Pittsburgh, Pa., December 24, 1874.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	Hum.	Wind. Dir.	Wind. Force.	Weather.
7 A M	29.92	31	81	W.	Brisk.	Cloudy
2 P M	29.93	37	57	W.	Brisk.	Fair.
9 P M	30.05	32	72	W.	Brisk.	Fair.

Mean barometer....30.11 Highest thermom.....40
Mean thermom.....31 Lowest thermom.....30

Pass Him Around.

Our respected townsman, Charles J. Clarke, Esq., gave a generous Christmas gift to one of our most worthy mission churches. By this gift many hearts have been made glad and cheered. This is a good way to celebrate Christmas. The pastor and people must heartily wish him a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Card from Messrs. Wheelen & Co.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Our attention has been called to an article in a city paper of the 22d, in regard to an ordinance authorizing an exchange of registered water extension bonds, which we conceive does us great injustice. We are not holders of any of the water extension loan, and do not wish to dispose of them in small amounts for our own advantage. We simply ask, as an act of justice to the parties to whom we have sold these bonds, that they may be permitted to transfer them to other parties to whom they may sell them, in sums of $100 or multiple —a privilege which is accorded to every holder of United States loans, the loans of the State of Pennsylvania, of the City of Philadelphia, and indeed almost every corporation in that locality of a registered bond. So universal is the custom, that we claim the right to issue registered bonds of $100 and upwards carries with it the right to transfer the same. Suppose we had sold you a registered bond for $1,000, and you subsequently wished to sell $1,000 and retain the balance. Ought you not to have the right to do so, and, if necessary, surrender your bond to be enabled to transfer $1,000 to the purchaser, and receive a balance certificate for the $1,000? This is all we claim, in the case of these bonds, and we are surprised that any one should object to it. The credit of Pittsburgh now stands high, and should be maintained; her bondholders should have no reason to complain that facilities granted to the holders of other city securities were denied to them.

Yours, respectfully,
WHEELEN & CO.
PHILADELPHIA, December 23, 1874.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"The Virginian," Bartley Campbell's latest drama, with Mr. Frank E. Aiken, of Chicago in the leading role, will be given for this and to-morrow afternoon and evening. The piece is really worth seeing at least once, and Mr. Aiken is one of the pleasantest actors who has visited Pittsburgh for a while.

Monday evening Mr. J. S. Clarke opens his engagement in the doubly attractive bill of "The Retreat-Lee" and "Toodles." *Doctor Petry Pumpkins* is a character never agreeably fresh to old friends, while to strangers an introduction to him is a relation of unexpected pleasure. *Toodles* is known to all the world by reputation, and the fact that Mr. Clarke is identified with the character on two appointments ought to satisfy the professional public of that renowned actor. We are sure of a very rich treat next week in Mr. Clarke's humorous personations.

Academy of Music.

The popular actress, Mlle. Marietta Ravel, supported by an excellent stock company, will give two performances at this theater to-day. The beautiful drama, "Camille," and "Fun," the roaring farce called "Paddy Miles' Boy," will be played at the matinee, and repeated in the evening. For the Saturday matinee extra attractions will be offered. Mlle. Ravel's engagement will close to-morrow evening. She should be greeted by crowded houses every time she appears.

Fifth Avenue Theater.

There will be a "Jack Harkaway" matinee here this afternoon, with Mr. Hernandez Foster in the leading character. The same bill will be repeated to-night, at the matinee to-morrow, and to-morrow night, when Mr. Foster's engagement closes.

Library Hall—Duprez and Benedict.

Duprez & Benedict's New Orleans Minstrels gave their first performance at Library Hall, last evening, before a large audience, a half column could be devoted to saying well merited good things of this organization, and yet not do full justice to the merit of the performance. They more than fulfill all promises made, and are deserving of the most liberal patronage. They will give entertainments this afternoon, to-night and to-morrow night, when their season closes.

The Hibernicon at Masonic Hall.

MacEvoy's Hibernicon, which is without doubt the best exhibition of the kind traveling, will give two entertainments to-day, afternoon and evening. Its last week ends to-morrow night, and all who can do so should attend.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

"Humpty Dumpty," the great holiday pantomime, will be given at Trimble's this afternoon and evening, in addition to a really first class variety bill. Performances will also be given to-morrow afternoon and night.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

Joseph Sproull, of Butler county, filed a petition for the adjudication of himself in bankruptcy. Schedules were referred to Register Shaffer.

Simmons & Co. et al., creditors, of Philadelphia, filed a petition in bankruptcy against Thomas J. Fear, of Hornersville, Somerset county. The usual order was granted. An order was also made restraining certain parties from interfering with the property of the debtor.

Butler, Broome & Clapp, creditors, vs. Isaac Michaelsky, debtor, St. Petersburg, Clarion county. The debtor having filed an answer denying the allegations set forth in the creditor's petition, and demanding a jury trial, the same is ordered at the next May term of Court at Pittsburgh.

J. & L. L. Childs, bankrupts, Erie county. The hearing on the exceptions filed to the report of the Commissioner appointed to ascertain and liquidate the liens against the estate, adjourned to the 23d prox.

District Court—Full Bench.

In the case of the city of Allegheny vs. W. J. Mougin's estate, the Court signed James Grier, Esq., auditor, to report distribution of the fund in Court among the parties entitled thereto.

In the case of James Steel & Co. vs. the Pennsylvania Company operating the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, garnishees of A. J. Chambers, judgment was rendered against the garnishee for $25, with leave to plaintiff to issue execution.

The case of McKinney's assignees vs. J. T. Woods, *et al.*, is still on trial before Judge White.

Court adjourned until Saturday morning.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Collier.

George S. Knowlton pleaded guilty to embezzlement, charged by A. D. Clark, and was sentenced to thirty days in jail.

Alexander Cobb was acquitted of a charge of assault and battery, and the prosecutor, James Wood, was directed to pay the costs.

Joseph Hickman pleaded guilty to larceny, charged by John Hutton, and was sentenced to the Workhouse for one year.

Edward Griffin was acquitted of assault and battery, and the prosecutor, Thomas Tenfel, was directed to pay the costs.

George Miller was acquitted of a charge of larceny, and the prosecutor, John P. J. Young, was directed to pay the costs.

David Gannon and Matthew Brown pleaded guilty to larceny as bailee and receiving stolen goods, charged by Hattie Hamilton, and a *nolle prosequi* was allowed as to James Conley and Teddy Feehan, defendants to the same indictment.

David Gannon, James Conley, Teddy Feehan, Michael Howley, David Hall and Matthew Brow were placed on trial on a charge of larceny preferred by William E. Sloss, and acquitted.

Patrick Connell was convicted of larceny, charged by John Urban, but recommended to the mercy of the Court.

John Gallagher, for receiving stolen goods, was sentenced two years in the Penitentiary.

John McBrainey, for assault with intent to rob, was sentenced to two years in the Workhouse.

Frederick A. Eberhart, for larceny, was sentenced to nine months in the Workhouse.

Patrick Connel, for larceny, noticed above, was sentenced to the Workhouse for sixty days.

David Audy, on several indictments for larceny, was sentenced to six years and six months in all to the Penitentiary.

Robert Richmond was sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year and six months.

Court adjourned until Monday morning next, when the trial of Edward Carr, charged with murder of John will commence.

THE OFFICIAL COUNT.

The Election for Congress and for Councilman.

The Judges of the Common Pleas Court yesterday figured up the returns from the special election held on Tuesday, in the Twenty-third Congressional district, to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. McJunkin's resignation, and also the vote for Select Councilman, in the the Fourth ward, Allegheny, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. McNeill's resignation. The vote for Congressman in Allegheny county was as follows:

John M. Thompson, R.	1,485
Robert P. Nevin, D.	1,035
Absolom Battle, I.	503

All of the districts of the county were seat in except Pine and Ross.

The following were the totals for the Councilmanic election:

Daniel Caherty, D.	346
F. Walter, Jr., R.	253
Edwin Lare, I.	108

A SCHOOL QUESTION.

Letter from the State Superintendent.

In the early part of the present year the Board of School Directors of the Twenty-third ward, as provided by law, chose Mr. J. Loughey to fill the vacancy in the Board caused by the resignation of one of their members. The choice thus made was for the period "until the next organization of the Board," which takes place, under the school law, "on the first Monday and in January." Heretofore the elections took place in the fall, but the fact that under the election held in the spring, which is held in February, would seem, as many suppose, in this instance, to make a vacancy in this Board from December until after the election in February.

For this reason Mr. Lewis J. Fleming, a member of the Board, "stated" the case to Mr. Wickersham, the State Superintendent, and has received an opinion as below. The opinions of the Superintendent on points of law have not always been depended upon here, but there is no doubt that it is worth:

"In the case you present, my opinion is that Mr. Loughey will hold until the next regular annual election of directors,' which will occur in February. Of this I have no doubt. But a much graver question is that which relates to the time the person elected director in February will take his seat—will it be at the next meeting of the Board after the election, or not until the next *organization* of the Board? When the election of a board of directors follows directly after the annual election, it has generally been held that the phrase in the law, 'until the next annual election for directors' should be construed to mean 'until the next annual organization of the board,' but in a case like your's such construction would seem to be almost absurd, and, according to the decision of Judge Ross, is not in accordance with the law. Mr. Loughey should therefore hold his seat until the February election, when a successor will be chosen and be entitled to a seat at the first meeting of the Board thereafter. * * *"

Franklin Savings Bank, Allegheny.

Individual liability. Interest paid on time deposits.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

WILKIN'S HALL TOTALLY DESTROYED.

Loss $15,000 to $20,000—Neighboring Property Endangered—Credit to the Fire Department.

About ten minutes before twelve last night, an alarm of fire was struck from box 24, corner of Fifth avenue and Smithfield street. The Chief Engineers and the fire companies promptly responded, but before they reached the point indicated, a mass of flame was seen issuing from one of the buildings near Fourth avenue. It was soon ascertained that a fire had gained great headway in the upper third floor of the old Wilkin's Hall building, near Smithfield street. The hose of the companies responding were quickly placed in position and, as soon as possible, but not before the fiery element had possession of the building and was making such headway as excited alarm for the adjoining property. The engines took position on Fourth avenue, and Smithfield and Diamond streets, and through the front of the building, from the top of the roof of a Smithfield house and from the lockup and rear stables on Diamond alley, water was thrown. A high wind was blowing soon after twelve o'clock, and great masses of flame and burning wood issued from the windows.

At about a quarter past twelve o'clock Chief White received a second alarm, which brought other engine companies, but meanwhile by the advantage of an engine stream playing upon the roof of the house next to Patterson's sale stable, while another stream was thrown upon the building above, the fire was confined to Wilkin's Hall building, near Smithfield street. At twenty minutes to one o'clock a third or general alarm was struck, which called the reserve force of the Fire Department, but, as it turned out, fortunately, their services were not really needed, but would have been necessary hours had the flames spread when the alarm was sounded. At the time stated the roof had fallen in at the rear of the building and the volume of flame and live cinders had created a very general impression that other buildings would be destroyed.

The roofs of buildings around the burning house, and those in the line of the wind, were watched by many people, and with the occasional throwing of water upon them further destruction was prevented. Shortly before one o'clock the cornice of one of the new buildings of Messrs. Milliken, on the East side of Smithfield street, took fire, and the stream from the top of the opposite building failed to reach it. The fire was stamped out by a man who climbed over the front top of the building, and its extinguishment was greeted with cheers by the crowd of men upon the street below. At this writing, 1:45, the building may be considered entirely destroyed, with its contents, although the walls yet remain. All danger to other property is, however, averted, and too much credit cannot be given the fire department for their success. When the first alarm was given the fire, as shown, had full fifteen minutes' start, and considering the inflammability of its contents its destructive work was brief.

Hundreds of persons who gathered round expressed the opinion that we were to have a great fire, but that the whole square would be destroyed. The police did good duty in keeping the crowd from interfering with the fire, while the pluck and endurance of the latter saved the city from a conflagration.

The third story of the building where the fire originated, is said to have been occupied by Messrs. Roenick & Gill, upholsters, as a piece for the manufacture of mattresses. It was stored with these articles and a large quantity of rubbish. The second story of the building was used as a variety theater, called the American. Messrs. Krueger & McIntyre proprietors, but think it necessary was not used as a real estate office by the lessee, Mr. C. Hanson Love, while the other side was, it is said, a "boys' establishment." The only losses in addition to the building that are to be reported are those of Messrs. Roenick & Gill and Mr. Love. The Varieties was not a very reputable establishment, while no words are needed for the gambling or "policy" shop.

The Wilkin's Hall building occupied three lots, Nos. 119, 121 and 123, and was of about thirty feet in depth. It was built about 1850, by the late Judge Wilkins, and was still owned by his heirs, Mrs. Carr, we believe, a daughter, being one of them. In 1856 it was taken possession of by the city, and until the erection of the new City Hall, in 1871, was occupied for city offices, the Mayor's, Controller's and Treasurer's being upon the first floor. The fire alarm telegraph and also the Duquesne Greys upon the second, and a gymnasium upon the third. The building was hardly worth more than $12,000, and, with the contents, the total loss will hardly exceed $20,000. The time limit of insurance can be obtained as to insurance, but doubtless the property was fully covered.

The firemen deserve the greatest credit for their prompt and unceasing labors, as do many citizens who aided them in need.

SHERIFF HARE.

He is Presented with a Silver Service.

John H. Hare, Esq., our efficient and gentlemanly High Sheriff, was yesterday presented with an elegant silver set, comprising a salver, urn, coffee and tea pot, cream pitcher, sugar bowl, cake basket, butter dish and knife, syrup can and oyster tureen. The salver contained an inscription, indicating that the service was a gift from his friends conveying an expression of their good will and kindly regard. The sheriff, who prides himself on being wide awake, and fully posted on all matters about the office, was "caught napping" in regard to this arrangement, which had been nicely "set up" on him. The first intimation he got was when the "childike and bland" ex-Sheriff Sam. Finley, "smuggled" the Sheriff, and notified him "that he was wanted." The pieces had been conspicuously displayed, and when the Sheriff got eye on them he was completely surprised.

Mr. Finley made the presentation remarks. He said that his associates had delegated him to offer on his own and their behalf, this testimonial in token of their esteem for the Sheriff as a public officer and private citizen. Their business life with him had been of the most pleasant character, and they hoped this little episode would serve, in some degree, as an expression of the tenderness of feelings towards him.

The Sheriff displayed considerable emotion, but there was no attorney present to appear for him, and he was forced to "accept the service" in person. He had been drinking, and exactly what he did say, but he assured the deputies that their generous expression of good will would never be effaced from his memory, and that his feelings towards the gentlemen who offered him this testimonial, and who are associated with him in the public discharge of the duties connected with his office, were as deep and as tender as theirs could possibly be towards him.

The affair was soon noised abroad, and scores called into office and congratulated the Sheriff on the happy event.

THE REIGN OF THIEVES.

Robberies in the City Within the Past Three Days.

Within the memory of the oldest inhabitant, nothing has occurred to equal the thievish operations which have transpired in the city lately. Following is a record of the robberies committed within the past three days:

Hamilton & Co.'s pawn emporium, No. 51 Fifth avenue, was robbed of $138 Tuesday evening.

Philip O. Jones, South Side, lost a lot of poultry, Tuesday.

Harry Harbaugh, East End, two coats stolen.

Oliver C. McClurg, Logan street, lost household goods valued at $100.

Swenson & Cartwright, Federal street, Allegheny, lost a lot of goods from the front of their store.

R. H. Myers, Roup's Station, residence burglarized Wednesday night.

Dr. De Wolf, South Side, had poultry stolen.

Mrs. Ann Clemens, East End, was victimized by confidence men.

The residence of Col. Guthrie, at Shady Side, was burglarized.

Woodfey & Clark, Liberty street—Notes and bills amounting to $2,300 stolen.

Shrubbery stolen from Messrs. Rea, Paulsen, Vandevort, Finley and VanGorder, in the East End.

Foster, McKelvy & Co. and Frazer, Metzgar & Co., Wood street, were visted by thieves yesterday.

Captain Brooks, of Boston, and father-in-law of E. H. Nevin, Esq., of this city, was robbed of a valuable diamond pin, on the Westinghouse car.

Burglars attempted to rob the house of Mr. J. Hobbs, on Roup's Station, Pennsylvania Railroad.

A basket of poultry, belonging to an Allegheny market woman, was stolen Wednesday night.

There were a number of robberies which are not included in this list.

FREAKS OF AN INSANE MAN.

A New Yorker Fleeing from Imaginary Murderers and Robbers.

A man giving his name as John Lind, and his residence as Cohoes, N. Y., came to the Mayor's office yesterday afternoon and asked the protection of the police, stating that he was pursued by a band of robbers, who represented themselves as detectives, and had conspired together to take his life and rob him. Mr. Lind said he resided in Cohoes, N. Y., and was taking a trip for his health. He had been in New York city, and was on his way home when he first noticed the conspirators against his life, and after taking the afternoon train in the Westinghouse and Erie Railroad, he became alarmed over the fact that he was being followed off the cars and hastened to the Mayor's office with his complaint. During his conversation with the detectives Mr. Lind was pulled off his left boot and exhibited a considerable amount of money which he had concealed in his stocking. He had also in his pocket-book a railroad ticket to Rochester, N. Y., and a roll of bank bills. He asked that the police officers should lock him up and protect him from the evil designs of the conspirators against his life.

From the many conversations it was evident that he was insane, and he was confined in the Central Station House to await further developments.

PARNASSUS, PA.

Rev. T. F. Core on "National Reform."

A meeting in the interest of "National Reform" was held at Parnassus Tuesday evening. David Alter, M. D., the President of the Local Association, presided. After prayer, the Rev. T. F. Core was introduced as the speaker of the occasion. Mr. Core is a tall, personable man, a convincing reasoner and forcible speaker, and is justly reckoned among the most prominent young ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Core is now located as a pastor in Greensburg. The address was a straightforward, earnest and able exhibition of the claims of this great question on the attention of all citizens who love the Christian institutions under which we live and hope for their purity and perpetuity. The agitation of this most important subject is arousing thought and causing public sentiment to crystallize into proper form. As God is true, the principles advocated in this reform must prevail, or sooner or later the fabric of our boasted government will totter to the fall: "For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish."—Isaiah 60:12. S. B. M.

For the Holidays.

Messrs. Gildenfenney & Hess have placed us under obligations for a choice assortment of holiday literature, consisting of all the "picture papers" and magazines. They have been doing an immense business, but still have full assortments of standard books, games, gift-books for old and young, and other articles suitable for presentation. They sell everything at the lowest living prices.

Franklin Savings Bank, Allegheny.

George R. Riddle, President.

Stockholders individually liable.

Interest paid on time deposits.

ALLEGHENY COUNCILS.

Regular Meeting Last Evening.

Allegheny Councils met last evening in their respective chambers in City Hall.

SELECT BRANCH.

The following Common Council business was considered:

The ordinances fixing the places of holding elections in the Ninth and Tenth wards (passed in Common Council), was taken up and passed finally. All other Common Council business was also completed.

The report of Mr. Rodgers on the condition of the fire alarm telegraph was presented, in which the telegraph is represented as in bad condition.

A protest from the suspended Superintendent, McCandless, was read. Mr. McCandless says he did not have a fair chance in the management of the lines; that he was subordinate to another man, and therefore was not responsible for the failure.

The resolution suspending the Superintendent was passed.

NEW BUSINESS.

Mr. Slack presented the report of the Finance Committee, which was received. The report was accompanied by an ordinance authorizing the Controller to borrow $30,000 for city expenses for the remainder of the year, which was passed.

Mr. Voegtly called up the ordinance relative to the letting of contracts by the city. Postponed till next meeting.

Mr. Coebran called up the ordinance for the improvement of Beaver avenue. Recommitted.

Adjourned.

COMMON BRANCH.

Select Council business was taken up, and there were concurrences in a number of ordinances of minor importance. Other Select Council business was acted upon as follows:

Mr. Coehran presented the report of the conference committee in the matter of the grading, paving and curbing of Preble avenue. The committee recommend a concurrence in the action of Select Council in the passage of the ordinance authorizing the grading, etc., of the said avenue. The report recommendation was adopted, and the ordinance passed finally.

Ordinance authorizing the widening of Woodland avenue from Beaver avenue to extension to the New Brighton road. Passed.

Ordinances relative to the sewers, sewerers, and the duties of the City Engineer in giving notice thereof. Passed.

Supplemental ordinance adopted May 8, 1875, entitled "An ordinance for the issue of Two Hill improvement bonds, and further payment of the expenses of the said work." The supplement provides for the issue of additional bonds to the amount of $5,000, for the completion of the improvement of the Frey Hill road.

Mr. Johnson objected that under the Wallace bill an ordinance of this character could not legally originate in Select Council.

The action of S. C. was non-concurred in.

NEW BUSINESS.

Mr. Roberts offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Fire to stamp out by law all the inkstands, spittoons and other grabable property." The *World* begins to appreciate one of the vices of Democratic legislators.

Mr. Willie, a Democratic member of Congress from Texas, condenses, in a pithy sentence, the position which Liberal Republicans are invited to take in the Democratic party. He said to some one who suggested that Banks should be made Speaker of the next House: "Well, Banks may sing with us, but he can't lead the choir."

Says the Cincinnati *Gazette*: "Let's see. The great Democratic victory was won on the 3d of November. Since then we have had the Buskirk decision in Indiana, the turning of colored children out of public schools in Brazil, and the defense of the citizens of Vicksburg of their altars and their fires, involving the killing of some forty or fifty colored people. What grand results are these!"

"Difference of opinion" in the Democratic party, according to the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, ought not to affect the party. Well, we never knew that it did. Pennsylvania Democrats have always favored a high tariff, and Ohio Democrats free trade, yet they voted the Democratic ticket all the same. So last fall, the infidelonists and hard money Democrats voted together. Principles are nothing, the party everything. Democrats should hate office whenever happens.—*Dayton Journal*.

Since the New York *Times* was begun in 1851, only one effort to establish a morning paper in that city has been successful. One evening daily, the *Mail*, has also been started successfully, and this is the extent of the increase.

THE FRANKLIN HOUSE.

Its Present and Prospective Success.

The grand opening of the Franklin Bowling Saloon (late Hummel's Museum) was in every way a decided success, and it has been daily and nightly crowded at the entertainment of this popular athletic amusement. Mr. Wes. Stroup, the enterprising proprietor, is entitled to great credit for the elegant and elaborate style in which he has fitted up this model bowling hall, and we note with pleasure our citizens, especially those who want a healthful opportunity for exercise, are taking the lead in this honorable and fashionable amusement of bowling, and from the crowds in attendance Mr. Stroup may be assured of the success of his enterprise. The alleys are all that could be desired, the attendants polite, and careful attention given to the comfort of visitors, in fact, everything that money could command has been introduced to make the Franklin Bowling Saloon the most elegant and fashionable place of amusement in this city.

The arrangements for the comfort of players is complete, and abundant room is set apart for spectators. The cozy audience room in the balcony is tastefully furnished and supplied with racks and stands for news-papers and magazines, of which all the leading ones will be found on file. From this room a view of the whole establishment is given and the visitor can witness all the games.

The Bowling Saloon is on the second floor. The Bar and Billiard Rooms are on the first floor, level with the street, and in the same entirely separated. A magnificent stairway is now being built that will connect the two rooms.

Mr. Stroup certainly deserves success in his efforts, and we have no doubt that the character of his establishment and the benefits of exercising in Bowling become known to the public, the Franklin Bowling Saloon will be one of the most popular resorts in the city.

Marked Down.

All goods have been marked down to suit the times at Gildenfenny & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Diaries for 1875

at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

ELEGANT PERFUMERY AND Fancy Goods for the Holidays.

We are just in receipt of an elegant and large assortment of toilet articles and perfumery suitable for Christmas presents, including perfumes, colognes and toilet waters (in fact anything in the line of perfumery), also many other articles of rare beauty and elegance will be found at the Largest and Cheapest Variety Store in Market street of Fifth avenue and corner Smithfield and Fifth avenue.

Also a full line of Leather goods such as Leather Wallets and soaps, Atkinson's extra Lubin's extracts and toilet soaps, Fine English White Rose, Low's toilet soaps, Fine English hair brushes and combs, Farris colognes, French plate hand mirrors.

Christmas Presents

for ladies and children at Kinder Blairs, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Caramels and Walnut Candy

a specialty at Kinder Blair's, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

The Most Varied

assortment of choice confections in the cities at Kinder Blair's, No. 29 Fifth avenue, and No. 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Photographic Celebrities.

61 Fifth avenue.

Best Flours in the Market

are the Pearl Steam Mills two star, made from best Kentucky white wheat; Pittsburgh City Mills and Eclipse, made from Kentucky and her and Michigan white wheat. All manufactured and guaranteed by Marshall, Kennedys & Co.

N. B.—See that the firm's name is on each barrel or sack.

Go to Kinder Blairs

for fine confectionery No. 29 Fifth avenue Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

An Elegant Stock.

The assortment of fine watches, diamonds and jewelry at the establishment of T. F. Bedilion, No. 75 Smithfield street, is one of the largest in the city, and the prices are the lowest that can be obtained.

Nights of Painful Watching

with poor, sick, crying children can be avoided by the use of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It relieves the little sufferer from pain, cures wind colic, regulates the stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and during the process of teething it is invaluable.

Pen-Wipers

of all descriptions at Gildenfenny & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Foreign and Domestic Fruits

in great variety at Kinder Blairs, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Get Your Picture Taken.

For the benefit of persons who cannot take the time, except on holidays, to have their pictures taken, E. L. H. Dubbs, will keep open his picture rooms on Christmas day.

French Bonbons

and every variety of choice confectionery at Kinder Blairs, 29 Fifth avenue Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Physicians

Recommend Dr. Ball's Cough Syrup when all other remedies fail, as a certain cure for Bronchitis, Sore Throat, and Coughs or Colds of long standing. For sale by all druggists.

Fine Confectionery a Specialty

at Kinder Blair's, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

EVANSVILLE, December 24.—Weather clear; mercury 30 to 37. River risen 4-10 foot, with 9 and 4-10 foot on the gauge. Port Lisa, Down—Etna, Dick Johnson, Little Candor and barges, Bowling Green, Morning Star, Up—Idlewild, Geo Roberts, Cherokee. Business fair.

CAIRO, December 24.—Arrived—A. J. Baker, St. Louis. Departed—Lee Sweeney, St. Louis; Rover, Ohio river; Lady Lee, Vicksburg. River 5 feet 11 inches and rising. Weather clear and cool.

NEW ORLEANS, December 24.—No arrivals. Departed—Sam Shoic, Cincinnati; John Kyle, St. Louis. Weather clear and cool.

VICKSBURG, December 24.—Up—Governor Allen and tow, Down—Hiram Campbell and tow, Bell of Shreveport and Colorado. Weather cloudy and cool. River fell 2 inches.

ST. LOUIS, December 24.—Arrived—Jasper, Cairo; Captain Cook, Vicksburg; Tom Means, Ohio river. Departed—Nellie Peck, Vicksburg; St. Joseph, Memphis; Wild Duck, Cairo; Hobbs, Wheeling; swift, Cincinnati. River stationary. Weather clear and pleasant.

ADDITIONAL MARKETS.

Baltimore Live Stock Market.

BALTIMORE, December 24.—Cattle—Receipts 1,826. Market opened with fair demand but closed dull; very best on sale $6 37½@7 00; first quality $4 75@5 75; medium or good fair quality $3 50@4 25. Sales 1,279.

Hogs—Receipts 5,766. Supply and demand light; sales at $7 00@7 00.

Sheep—Receipts 761. Market dull at $4 50@5 50 for light; a few extra at $6 25.

CHRISTMAS PIANOS AND ORGANS.

Special Notice to Buyers.

We have now on hand the most elegant stock of pianos and organs, of all styles and prices, especially suited for the holiday trade. In accord with the spirit of the times we have reduced our prices to the *very lowest* that a *good reliable instrument* can be sold for. We can assure the public that we are now offering better pianos and organs for *less money* than has ever been known in Pittsburgh, and lower than any other house sells at, notwithstanding all the wholesale blowing in the newspapers that is done by some other dealers in short, we challenge competition both for quality and price. We warrant fully every instrument we sell, and our warrantee is worth its face, which is of importance for a buyer to consider. We cordially invite all buyers to call and examine our stock. We *know we can suit you as an instrument, and you can save money by buying from us.*

MELLOR & HORNE,
59 Fifth avenue.

Little Wide Awake,

a book for young children, at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Special Bargains in Pianos and Organs.

We have but three more of those superb parlor gem pianos (Bradford & Co. make) left, and deciding to close them out entirely to-day (Thursday) and Christmas morning, we have concluded to close these last three out at about cost; we will therefore make them at these extraordinary low figures: Style 3, extra, price $475, style 4, extra, price $500, at $250. These two are both 7⅓ octave, elegant ebonized and are beautifully finished rosewood. Also, No. 5 extra, 7¼ oct., all four round corners, handsomely finished same as front, full agraffe all through the scale; most elegant instrument (the last of five of this same style received which is to-day); price $600, at only $330. The last named instrument is a most beautiful piano, and in fact we will say, think with any instrument you can get elsewhere at $600. These are all finished in mahogany cases, such as have never been offered in Pittsburgh before; are all perfect in every particular and guaranteed for five years. Just the chance for you getting a piano for them. Remember the place is S. Hamilton & Co., 77 Fifth avenue, old number 51, over McCallum's carpet store.

Assorted Candies

a specialty, at H. Blair's, No. 29 Fifth avenue, and No. 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Before You Leave

your order for a supper for a wedding party or banquet, consult R. Blair, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny city. His facilities for meeting your requirements are unsurpassed.

Juvenile Books

at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

The Children Cry

for one of those magnificent kaleidescopes which are presented by Mr. P. F. Randolph, the jeweler, No. 87 Smithfield street, to every purchaser of his splendid Broadway suits for men, youths, boys and children. When, in connection with this valuable present, we take into consideration that the garments are stylish, durable and well made, we are surprised to find that any neglect to take advantage of the inducements offered. The stock of kaleidescopes is almost exhausted, and customers should be in time to secure one.

The Greatest Attractions

in the way of holiday books ever offered can be found at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

It Is Not Too Late

to buy one of those magnificent holiday presentation books at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

The Great Sale

at the Boston One-Price Clothing House still continues, and the rush for bargains at that well-known emporium is as great as ever.

Mr. Rossiter has just received every article in his immense stock to the very lowest prices, regardless of cost, determined on closing out the entire lot previous to the first of January. The well-known reputation of the goods which are sold at this establishment renders it unnecessary for us to enlarge at this time upon their merits. Every article is made in the best and most thorough manner, and of the latest and most fashionable style. Remember that the sale continues till after the first of January, and that better bargains are now offered than were ever before seen in this city.

The Finest Holiday Display

to be seen in the two cities is at Kinder Blair's, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Christmas

has come, and you have not bought a present for your friend. In this case the best advice that we can tender you is to go at once and procure one of those superb watches or elegant articles of jewelry from T. P. Bedilion, No. 75 Smithfield street.

Games of All Kinds

at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Don't Go Home

to your Christmas dinner without taking a package of that choice candy from Kinder Blair's, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Beautiful Boxes

for Holiday gifts, at Kinder Blair's, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and No. 68 Federal street, Allegheny city.

Personal.

If you want a stylish suit that will fit you perfectly and give you unlimited satisfaction, you have only to call on your tonsorial artist C. A. Muhlbring, the popular merchant tailor, No. 100 Fifth avenue. His stock of imported goods is the largest and most varied one to be found in any establishment west of New York. He is patronized by the most fashionable gentlemen of this city, and his patrons are unanimous in the opinion that the garments furnished by him are equal in all respects to any turned out by the leading Broadway tailors.

Elegant Work Baskets

for the ladies at Kinder Blairs, No. 29 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, and 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

Pocket-Books.

Largest assortment in the city, at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 69 Fifth avenue.

Fashionable Clothing.

It is a universally acknowledged fact that Mr. B. Teigel, No. 55 Smithfield street, manufactures the best and most fashionable garments and business suits ever seen in Pittsburgh. His stock of materials is large and complete, and was selected expressly for this market and purchased at the time when woolen goods were sold in the Eastern markets at a great sacrifice; consequently he is enabled to sell garments at a very low price. Gentlemen visiting first-class goods at reasonable rates should call upon Mr. Teigel, and examine his extensive assortment, before ordering elsewhere.

Holiday Gifts.

61 Fifth avenue.

MARRIED:

SHUMANN—PORTER—On Thursday, December 24, 1874, at the Reformed Church, by Rev. J. L. Shumann, of Pittsburgh, and MATTIE M., daughter of J. R. and M. A. Porter, of Allegheny city, Pa.

DIED:

FLOYD—At 10:35 Wednesday morning, WILLIE, son of William and the late Lizzie Floyd, aged six-teen years, three months and two days.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from the residence of his father, No. 9 Congress street, on FRIDAY AFTERNOON, at 2 o'clock. December 25, 1874.

BOWERS—December 24, at 8 o'clock A. M., at the residence of his parents, No. 245 Rebecca street, Allegheny city, GEORGE F. BOWERS, in the twenty-second year of his age.

Funeral from the residence of the parents, on SUNDAY, December 27, at 2 o'clock P. M.

(Lancaster papers please copy.)

CHARTIERS CEMETERY,

Near Idlewood Station, Pan Handle Railroad, six miles from the city by rail and four miles by the Temperanceville and Mansfield Pike.

Funerals from the city by either Rail or Carriages. Applications for Lots can be made to J. B. FIFE, Superintendent, at the Cemetery, or at the City Office, 187 Liberty street.

J. L. MANSHALL,
Secretary and Treasurer.

4p

LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Manufacturers of LIGHT Grey Iron

Castings,

Plain, Japanned, Bronzed, Coppered or Galvanized.

Light Work our Specialty.

Office and Works near Ohio Depot, ALLEGHENY City. Postoffice address, Lock Box 302, Pittsburgh, Pa. MWF

Oldest Ins. Co. in America.
ASSETS, $3,975,762 25.
Ins. Co. of North America
OF PHILADELPHIA.
Losses adjusted and paid by
WILLIAM L. JONES, 84 Fourth Ave.

FIRE BRICK.

SAVAGE, GLADE & SAVAGE

Mountain Fire Brick,

WARRANTED EQUAL TO ANY FIRE BRICK IN THE MARKET.

J. & J. M. PORTER,

Manufacturers and Sole Agents for the sale of the above named Brands.

Also, Manufacturers of WEST VIRGINIA FIRE BRICK AND FURNACE LININGS.

P. O. Address—NEW CUMBERLAND, W. VA. Pittsburgh Office—No. 3 SMITHFIELD STREET, Monongahela House Building.

1874. FALL AND WINTER 1875

HATS, CAPS

AND

FURS!

A Large and Attractive Stock

OF

NEW DESIRABLE GOODS,

FOR THE

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.

R. H. PALMER,

151 WOOD ST.

Fairbank's Standard

Scales

Of all kinds. Be careful to buy only the genuine. Also Baggage Barrows, Warehouse Trucks, improved Money Drawers, &c. Grocers' Fixtures. Scales Repaired Promptly.

FAIRBANKS,
55 Wood Street Pittsburgh.

TTHS

WM. HOLMES.....JAMES IRWIN

JAMES IRWIN & CO.,

OIL OF VITRIOL, MURIATIC ACID, NITRIC ACID, ENGLISH CAUSTIC SODA, And AQUA AMMONIA.

OFFICE—NO. 15 MARKET ST., PITTSBURGH

HALL'S PATENT

SAFES,

Of Every Description,